



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**Stephen J. Murphy  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan**

*Suite 2001  
211 West Fort Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277  
Fax: (313) 226-3561*

**For Immediate Release:**

**Contact:** Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

July 11, 2007

---

**EVENT: Guilty Plea**

**Defendant: Ghazi Al-Awadi**

**MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ACTING AS  
AGENT FOR FORMER IRAQI GOVERNMENT**

---

A Dearborn man pleaded guilty today to acting as an agent of the government of Iraq under the former regime of Saddam Hussein, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, FBI Special Agent in Charge.

Pleading guilty before U.S. District Judge Nancy G. Edmunds was Ghazi Al-Awadi, 78, a naturalized U.S. citizen born in Iraq.

According to documents filed in the case, between May and November 2002, Al-Awadi obtained information in the United States about individuals and groups opposed to Saddam Hussein and then provided that information to the Iraqi Intelligence Service in Iraq. Al-Awadi acted as an agent of the government of Iraq without notifying the Attorney General as required by law.

Under the terms of the plea agreement between the government and Al-Awadi, the court may sentence Al-Awadi to up to 51 months' imprisonment.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "We will respond aggressively to any cases involving spying by the agent of a hostile foreign government. Refugees from oppressive regimes should be able to enjoy the freedoms of the United States without being monitored or informed upon by agents of that regime on US soil. I commend the FBI for their excellent investigation that resulted in this guilty plea."

Special Agent in Charge Andrew G. Arena said, "The foreign intelligence threat facing the United States is increasingly complex. Protecting the United States against foreign intelligence operations and espionage is one of the FBI's top priorities."

Judge Edmunds set the date for sentencing for November 8, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.